

## Message Text

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ACTION HA-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 IO-13 ISO-00 SS-15 PM-05 SP-02  
NSCE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00  
FDRE-00 AID-05 DODE-00 ABF-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 EB-08  
HEW-04 OES-07 AGRE-00 /087 W  
-----085317 031322Z /43

O 031248Z APR 78  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 7872  
INFO AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO IMMEDIATE

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FOR HA

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: SREF, UNHCR, ET, SO  
SUBJECT: UNHCR REFUGEE PROGRAMS IN AFRICA

REF: A. BRENNAN/LOWMAN TELCON 3/31; B. STATE 83061;  
C. STATE 79880 (NOTAL)

1. FOLLOWING ARE UNHCR RESPONSES TO SPECIFIC QUESTIONS  
POSED REF A:

A. BREAKDOWN FOR ANGOLAN PROGRAM:  
ZAIRIANS - 225,000 PEOPLE, BUDGETED AT \$4,850,000;  
NAMIBIANS - 10,000 PEOPLE, BUDGETED AT \$150,000.

B. THERE IS NO BUDGETED PROGRAM SHOWN FOR THE CAMEROUN  
BECAUSE UNHCR EARLIER ALLOCATED \$200,000 IN EMERGENCY  
FUNDS FOR THE PROGRAM THERE WHICH HAVE NOT YET BEEN USED,  
AND THEREFORE REMAIN AVAILABLE FOR THIS PURPOSE. UNHCR  
STATED THAT THIS PROGRAM MIGHT ULTIMATELY REACH A COST  
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FIGURE OF \$400,000.

C. AS CONCERNS THE PROGRAM IN GHANA, THE \$70,000 IS  
FOR THE EDUCATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICAN STUDENTS, WHOM  
GHANA HAS ACCEPTED IN CONSIDERABLE NUMBERS.

D. IN SOMALIA, UNHCR HAS ACCEPTED AT FACE VALUE THE

GOVERNMENT ESTIMATE OF 500,000 REFUGEES. HOWEVER, (SEE BELOW) ITS OWN ESTIMATE IS THAT BETWEEN 150,000 AND 200,000 ARE REFUGEES ACTUALLY IN NEED OF ASSISTANCE. IF THE REMAINDER EXIST, THEY ARE THOUGHT TO BE CARED FOR BY FAMILY MEMBERS, TRIBAL RELATIVES, OR OTHER CONNECTIONS IN SOMALIA AND ARE THEREFORE NOT IN NEED OF UNHCR HELP.

E. REFUGEES IN ZAMBIA: THESE ARE BROKEN DOWN BY UNHCR AS 8,000 ZIMBABWEANS, 11,000 ANGOLANS AND 1,000 "VARIOUS", PRINCIPALLY FROM NAMIBIA AND SOUTHERN AFRICA. THE SCHOOL IS NOT REPEAT NOT INCLUDED IN THE \$1.86 MILLION BUDGETARY ESTIMATE FOR ZAMBIA, FOR WHICH THE GOVERNMENT HAS ASKED \$2 MILLION, OF WHICH UNHCR WILL PAY \$1 MILLION FOR CONSTRUCTION ONLY. UNHCR WILL NOT PARTICIPATE IN COSTS OF OPERATION.

2. GEORGE IACOVOU, UNHCR AREA OFFICER FOR EASTERN AFRICA, RETURNED TO GENEVA FROM SOMALIA MARCH 31 AND WAS INTERVIEWED BY MISOFF APRIL 3. FOLLOWING INFORMATION PROVIDED BY IACOVOU. HIS MISSION IN SOMALIA, WHICH LASTED FROM MARCH 18 TO MARCH 30, WAS FOCUSED LARGELY IN THE BORDER AREAS WHERE REFUGEES ARE CONCENTRATED, PRINCIPALLY IN THE HARGEISA SECTOR. WITH THIS MISSION, UNHCR'S ASSESSMENT OF REFUGEE NEEDS IN SOMALIA AS OF THIS DATE HAS BEEN COMPLETED. IACOVOU NOTED THAT HIS MISSION WAS CONCURRENT WITH THAT OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY MOOSE, BUT THAT THE TWO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DID NOT MEET. HOWEVER, IACOVOU DID MEET WITH USAID AND EMBASSY OFFICIALS, AND UNDERSTOOD THAT SOMALI GOVERNMENT HAD GIVEN US AN IMPRESSIVE LIST OF DESIDERATA, TALLING SOME \$180 MILLION, ACCORDING TO IACOVOU, WHICH IS NOT DEEMED TO BE REALISTIC. UNHCR IS BASING ITS PLANNING ON 150,000 REFUGEES (THE FIGURE MIGHT GO AS HIGH AS 200,000) FOR A TOTAL BUDGET OF \$5 MILLION. IACOVOU POINTED OUT THAT THE SITUATION IS STILL UNCLEAR, THAT FIGHTING IS STILL GOING ON, AND THAT STILL MORE REFUGEES MIGHT BE GENERATED AS A RESULT. THE GOVERNMENT ITSELF ESTIMATES THAT THERE ARE 450,000 DISPLACED PERSONS, AND POSSIBLY AS MANY AS 550,000. IF THIS FIGURE IS CORRECT, BASED ON WHAT IACOVOU OBSERVED DURING HIS MISSION, THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT FIGURE AND THE UNHCR ESTIMATE OF 150,000 TO 200,000 CAN BE ACCOUNTED FOR ONLY BY THE PREMISE THAT THE BALANCE HAVE FOUND SUITABLE SHELTER AND MAINTENANCE WITH FELLOW TRIBES PEOPLE OR FAMILY MEMBERS LIVING IN SOMALIA.

3. IACOVOU STATED THAT THE UNITED STATES HAS PROVIDED 23,000 TONS OF FOOD UNDER TITLE II, WHICH WAS ORIGINALLY ESTABLISHED FOR VICTIMS OF THE DDAUGHT, AND NOT FOR DIS-

PLACED PERSONS. NONETHELESS, DESPITE THE ORIGINAL PURPOSE, IACOVOU FEELS THERE IS NO URGENT FOOD REQUIREMENT IN SOMALIA EXCEPT FOR PRODUCTS WHICH WOULD NOT NORMALLY BE PROVIDED BY THE UNITED STATES SUCH AS DATES, SUGAR, MEAT AND TEA. THE \$5 MILLION PROGRAM WHICH HE IS RECOMMENDING, AND WHICH IS INTENDED AS AN EMERGENCY OPERATION TO THE END OF THE YEAR, IS TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE HIGH COMMISSIONER TODAY (APRIL 3) FOR HIS APPROVAL. IT WILL BE TARGETED ON THE PROVISION OF WATER RESOURCES, INTERNAL TRANSPORTATION NEEDS (IACOVOU STATED THAT SOME COMMODITIES ALREADY PROVIDED HAD NOT REACHED BENEFICIARIES BECAUSE OF TRANSPORTATION DEFICIENCIES), SOME KINDS OF FOOD, DOMESTIC NEEDS (BLANKETS, COOKING UTENSILS, ETC.), AND SHELTERS. THE

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HEW-04 OES-07 AGRE-00 /087 W  
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LATTER WILL CONSIST OF ONLY A SMALL NUMBER OF TENTS, SINCE IACOVOU ESTIMATES THAT TRADITIONAL SHELTERS WILL SUFFICE, WITH SOME EXTERNAL ASSISTANCE ITEMS. IN SPECIFIC TERMS, UNHCR WILL AIM AT PROVIDING, WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF THE FOREGOING, SUCH ITEMS AS TARPAULIN, FLOOR MATS, CORRUGATED SHEETS, WATER TANKS, PUMPS, PIPES, A FEW TRAILERS AND TANKERS, INSECTICIDES, LAVRICIDES, AND A FEW MEDICINES BUT ONLY AT THE "DISPENSARY LEVEL".

4. AS FOR ETHIOPIA, IACOVOU STATED HE WAS LESS WELL INFORMED, BUT THAT HE WAS AWARE OF A MEETING HELD ON MARCH 31 IN ADDIS ABABA UNDER THE RELIEF AND REHABILITATION

COMMISSIONER'S CHAIRMANSHIP, WHICH WAS ATTENDED BY SOME EMBASSY REPRESENTATIVES, OXFAM, ICRC, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNDRO, FAO AND WHO REPRESENTATIVES. THIS MEETING, ACCORDING TO IACOVOU, DECIDED TO SET UP FOUR COMMITTEES TO STUDY THE REFUGEE SITUATION IN THE AREAS OF HEALTH, FOOD AND NUTRITION, DEVELOPMENT AND AGRICULTURE. HOWEVER, HE OBSERVED THAT A PROJECTED TRIP TO THE AFFECTED AREAS HAD NOT YET LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MATERIALIZED AND THAT, AS FAR AS UNHCR IS CONCERNED, THERE IS STILL NO SPECIFIC KNOWLEDGE AS TO WHAT THE ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT WANTS IN TERMS OF RELIEF ASSISTANCE FOR REFUGEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS WITHIN ITS TERRITORY.

5. AS CONCERNS DJIBOUTI MISSION HAS BEEN UNABLE TO REACH CUENOD THUS FAR TO OBTAIN AN UPDATE FO UNHCR'S PLANS REPORTED GENEVA'S 4091 AND 3917. HOWEVER, WE FEEL THAT PLANNING REPORTED THOSE MESSAGES REMAINS VALID AND, READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH DJIBOUTI'S EXCELLENT 474, SHOULD PROVIDE THE DEPARTMENT A COMPREHENSIVE VIEW OF THE EXISTING SITUATION IN DJIBOUTI AND CURRENT APPROACHES TOWARD COPING WITH IT BY UNHCR. MISSION WILL REPORT ASAP SHOULD CUENOD HAVE LATER INFORMATION TO PROVIDE. VANDEN HEUVEL

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REFUGEES, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 03 apr 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Expiration:**  
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**Office:** ACTION HA  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
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**TAGS:** SREF, ET, SO, UNHCR  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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